RURAL DISTRICT of BUCKINGHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

SURVEYOR

for the Year

1960

List of Parishes in the Council's Area

Addington
Adstock
Akeley
Barton Hartshorne
Beachampton
Biddlesden
Charndon
Chetwode
Edgcott
Foxcote
Hillesden
Leckhampstead
Lillingstone Dayrell
Lillingstone Lovell
Luffield Abbey
Maids Moreton
Marsh Gibbon
Middle Claydon
Padbury
Poundon
Preston Bissett
Radclive-cum-Chackmore
Shalstone
Steeple Claydon
Stowe
Thornborough
Thornton
Tingewick
Turweston
Twyford
Water Stratford
Westbury

1960
BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of Council :
S. W. Chapman, Esq.

General Purposes Committee

Chairman
G. J. Beckett, Esq.

Members :

W. G. Beckett, Esq.,
C. Bryant, Esq.
S. M. Cotton, Esq.
Mrs. M. S. Crook.
J. Davies, Esq.
W. Durrant, Esq.
W. E. Good, Esq.
A. Hodges, Esq.
P. J. Hodges, Esq.
W. S. Leyland, Esq.
T. S. Mitchinson, Esq.
G. Purefoy, Esq.
Mrs. M. M. Spiers.
D. A. Stewart, Esq.
Rev. W. J. Waker.
A. J. Woods, Esq.
H. H. S. Wright, Esq.

S. W. Chapman, Esq. and G. J. Beckett, Esq.
ex-officio members.

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health :

D. H. Waldron,
O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., Col. I.A.M.C. (Rtd.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for Buckingham M.B., the Urban Districts of Bletchley, Linslade, Newport Pagnell and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Newport Pagnell and Wing, Area Medical Officer for North Bucks and Divisional School Medical Officer for the North Bucks Division and the Buckingham and Winslow District.)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

F. O'Rourke, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. C. Sharpe, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector and Deputy :

K. E. Richardson, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Administrative Assistant :

C. H. Bray.

Student Public Health Inspector :

T. J. Ayres.

BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
School Lane,
Buckingham,
15*th June*, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members of Buckingham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1960.

The Birth Rate shows a slight rise on last year but is still slightly below that for the Country as a whole.

The Death rate shows a very satisfactory drop being now over three points lower than that for the rest of the Country. Heart Diseases and Cancer accounted for 58 of the total of 89 deaths.

The Infantile Mortality Rate remains at a satisfactory low level.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the villages of Steeple Claydon, Calvert and Tingewick during the year. A total of 891 persons was X-rayed and two cases of Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis were picked up, proving the great value of these Mass Radiography Surveys in the prevention and control of Tuberculosis.

The Unit have now acquired a second mobile machine and it is hoped that more of the smaller villages will be visited in the future.

I should like to record another year of happy co-operation with your Clerk, Mr. Floyd, your Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, Mr. Sharpe, and their staffs.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
Daniel H. Waldron.

SECTION A.

Vital Statistics

	1959	1960
Area (in acres)	54,543	54,543
Population	9,660	9,660
Number of Inhabited Houses ..	2,735	2.743
Rateable Value	£90,328	£91,399
Rate per £	20/-	20/2
Estimated Sum represented by a 1d. Rate	£334/11/5	£337/17/6
Births :		
Legitimate—Males ..	71	77
,, Females ..	69	68
Illegitimate—Males ..	4	1
,, Females ..	2	3
Birth rate per 1000 population	16.8	17.0
Do. (Bucks)	17.6	18.6
Do. (England & Wales)	16.5	17.1
Deaths—Males	63	48
,, Females	42	41
Death rate per 1,000 population	9.7	8.2
Do. (Bucks)	9.7	9.7
Do. (England & Wales)	11.6	11.5
Maternal Mortality Rate ..	Nil	Nil
Do. (England & Wales)	0.38	0.39
Infantile Mortality :		
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :		
per 1,000 live births ..	6.8	13.4
Ditto for Bucks ..	18.4	19.8
Ditto for England & Wales	22.0	21.7
Still Births	4	2

Principal Causes of Death:	1959 M.	1959 F.	1959 T.	1960 M.	1960 F.	1960 T
Influenza	0	1	1	0	0	0
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	10	6	16	12	4	16
Diabetes	0	0	0	0	3	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	8	10	18	6	9	15
Heart Disease	24	8	32	16	11	27
Other Circulatory Diseases...	3	1	4	1	3	4
Bronchitis	5	2	7	1	2	3
Pneumonia	2	2	4	1	1	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	1	1	0	1	1
Digestive Diseases	2	0	2	2	0	2
Nephritis	1	0	1	1	0	1
Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital Causes	0	1	1	1	0	1
Accidents	2	1	3	4	0	4
All other Causes	6	9	15	3	7	10
Totals	63	42	105	48	41	89

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services

1. Laboratory Facilities.

Specimens for bacteriological investigation were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, as in previous years. Specimens for qualitative and quantative analysis had to be sent to London.

2. Ambulance Services.

This service, administered by the County Health Department, is now radio controlled from Aylesbury, with a sub-station in Bletchley to cover the North Bucks Area. The service deals with all types of cases, general, accident and infectious disease.

3. Nursing Facilities.

The District Nurses in the Buckingham Rural Area carried out their duties in their usual conscientious manner.

4. Clinics.

(*a*) *Child Welfare Centres.* There are five static Welfare Centres serving the District, located as follows :

Buckingham (twice monthly)	Twyford (once monthly)
Steeple Claydon (do.)	Winslow (twice monthly)
Thornborough (once monthly)	

The work of the Mobile Welfare Unit continued during the year and the following villages were visited monthly :—

Akeley.	Charndon.	Padbury.
Adstock.	Dadford.	Preston Bissett.
Beachampton.	Leckhampstead.	Thornton.
Calvert.	Lillingstone Dayrell.	Tingewick.
Chackmore.	Maids Moreton	

The District Nurse and Health Visitor attended each Session, and a Medical Officer attended once monthly. Immunization against Diphtheria and Whooping cough was carried out at all centres. During the year attendances by children totalled 2,126.

Once again I should like to pay tribute to the good work done at these Clinics by the members of the Ladies' Voluntary Committees.

(*b*) *Chest Clinic.*—The Clinic holds weekly sessions and is administered jointly by the Regional Hospital Board and the County Health Department. A chest physician attends each session. It is equipped with X-ray plant and is doing excellent work.

(*c*) *Orthopaedic Clinic.*—This clinic is organized by the Wingfield-Morris Hospital, Oxford. It holds two sessions a month at the Town Hall, Buckingham, and an Orthopaedic Surgeon attends alternate months.

5. Hospitals.

The following Hospitals served the area during the year :—

Buckingham Hospital.
Aylesbury Group.
Oxford Group.
Northampton Group.
Creaton Sanatorium.
Peppard Sanatorium.

6. Domestic Help Service.

This service, which for some time had been administered on behalf of the County Council by the Women's Voluntary Service, is now administered direct with two whole time Domestic Help Organizers covering the North Bucks Area.

During the year, 69 cases were assisted in the Buckingham area.

7. Ineducable Children.

The County Medical Officer of Health has sent the following report :—

"The training Centre at Thornborough Church Hall continued to function satisfactorily during the year.

"Milk and mid-day meals were provided and children were conveyed from the surrounding area.

"The number on the roll remained at 14."

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SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. Water Supply.

The Bucks Water Board, of which your Council is a constituent authority, continued to supply every parish with water.

The Foxcote Treatment Works, in conjunction with the storage reservoir, have been in operation throughout the year and the approximate daily quantity of water supplied from these works during 1960 was 1,500,000 gallons, a decrease of 18,000 gallons per day over the 1959 figure.

Average daily quantity of water supplied from the Foxcote Treatment Works during the past five years :—

1956	1,165,000	gallons.
1957	1,335,000	,,
1958	1,370,000	,,
1959	1,518,000	,,
1960	1,500,000	,,

During the summer of 1959 certain temporary difficulties at Foxcote, due to the excessive plant growth in the raw water, gave rise to unpleasant taste. A carbon treatment plant was installed and brought into use in April 1960 for improving the taste of the treated water.

New Mains laid by the Board during the Year :—

67 lineal yards 3 in. asbestos cement main in the parish of Maids Moreton.

Main Supply.

(*a*) Quantity—Satisfactory.

(*b*) Quality—Satisfactory.

(*c*) Samples taken from the supply (which fell into Class I of the Ministry of Health's grading) 6

(*d*) Estimated number of premises on supply ... 2552

(*e*) Estimated number of population served ... 9407

Other Sources.

(*a*) Samples taken 16

(*b*) Samples found upon analysis to be unfit ... 8
(in these cases informal action was taken with the owners of the property concerned to provide a wholesome supply).

During the year, fifteen new dwellings and six existing dwellings (with no piped water supply) were connected to the Board's mains.

Summary of Results of Water Samples taken from other than Main Supply for Bacteriological Examination during the past Ten Years.

Year	*No. of Samples taken and examined*	*Result*	
		Satisfactory	*Unsatisfactory*
1951	12	2	10
1952	4	2	2
1953	7	3	4
1954	12	4	8
1955	12	1	11
1956	4	3	1
1957	6	2	4
1958	13	5	8
1959	12	5	7
1960	16	8	8
Totals	98	35	63
		64.28% unsatisfactory.	

2. Rivers and Streams.

The streams and water courses in a number of the smaller villages are still polluted by drainage effluent and in dry weather a number of them consist almost entirely of sewage. Every effort is made with the small labour force available to keep them cleaned out. The sewerage and sewage disposal schemes installed in recent years have helped greatly to reduce the overall picture of pollution but it will be many years before the district is completely rid of this nuisance.

3. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Akeley.

This scheme was completed towards the middle of the year and the works put into operation. The house drains from the majority of premises in the village area were connected to the new sewers by the Council's contractors. The works functioned satisfactorily and a good effluent was maintained.

Twyford.

Eight tenders were received for this scheme and the one submitted by Messrs. Concrete Piling Ltd., in the sum of £45,754 10s. 7d. was accepted by the Council and approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Work commenced during the latter part of the year and it is anticipated that the Contract will be completed early in 1962.

Marsh Gibbon.

During the year proposals to obviate flooding at Church Street were considered by the Council. The Council's Consulting Engineers were instructed to proceed with the preparation of detailed drawings, etc., with a view to work being put in hand during the next financial year and application was made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval to invite tenders for the work.

Hillesden.

The Council agreed to land at The Hamlet, Hillesden, owned by Christchurch, Oxford, together with the sewerage plant erected thereon and a section of sewer 385 feet in length, being vested in them, subject to the grant of easements in perpetuity for the maintenance of the sewer and a vehicular right of way from the highway to the sewage disposal plant site and also agreed to pay a contribution of £410 towards the construction of the plant.

Maids Moreton

Discussion with members of the Buckingham Borough Council took place during the year with regard to the reception and treatment of sewage from the village of Maids Moreton at the Borough Council's Sewage Disposal Works. No decision had been reached by the end of the year but it is hoped that agreement will be forthcoming in 1961.

The following villages are now provided with modern sewage disposal works :—

Chackmore.	Completed in 1939.
Steeple Claydon.	Completed in 1939.
Tingewick.	Completed during the War by the War Department and taken over by the Council in 1949. Extended in 1956 by War Department and taken over by the Council in 1959.
Thornborough.	Completed in 1953.
Marsh Gibbon.	Completed in 1956.
Adstock and Padbury.	Completed in 1959.
Hillesden Church End.	Completed in 1959.
Water Stratford.	Completed in 1959.
Akeley.	Completed in 1960.

These works functioned satisfactorily throughout the year and good effluent standards were maintained. The maintenance staff carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner.

New schemes are urgently required for sewage disposal in the following villages :—

Charndon—including the London Brick Company's works at Calvert.
Preston Bissett.
Westbury—new works required.
Shalstone.
Turweston.
Beachampton.
Edgcott.
Dadford.
Lillingstone Lovell.

During the year the Department prepared schemes and tenders were invited for the following :—

(*a*) Construction of settlement tank, filter-bed, sludge lagoon and the laying of 126 lineal yards of 6 in. glazed stoneware and 28 lineal yards of 6 in. spun iron pipes together with five manholes to replace the existing overloaded and obsolete sewage disposal plant serving 17 Council Houses, at South End, Leckhampstead. The new plant has been designed to treat the sewage for an ultimate population of 105 persons.

The tender submitted by Messrs. A. H. Busby (Buckingham) Ltd., in the sum of £2,153 0s. 7d. was accepted by the Council and submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, for approval.

(*b*) Extension of effluent drain serving The Elms, Preston Bissett which comprised the laying of 111 lineal yards of 6 in. glazed stoneware pipes and the construction of 4 inspection chambers and 1 catchpit.

The tender submitted by Messrs. Nash Bros., in the sum of £247 11s. 0d. was accepted and approved and work executed during the year.

4. Water Closets.

With the completion of the main sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for the village of Akeley, the six Council Houses at Church Hill were connected to the water carriage system. It is indeed pleasing to note that the whole of the houses owned by the Authority, i.e. 299 Pre-War and 419 Post-War are now provided with w.cs.

One hundred and fourteen w.cs. have been installed during the year by the owners of private properties.

5. Public Cleansing.

The collection of household refuse once every three weeks was carried out and a satisfactory service maintained throughout the District during the year. The scheme, which has been in operation for some four years, is a kerbside one and householders are required to place their bins on the roadside verges to await collection.

During the year the Council again considered proposals for a more frequent collection of household refuse and authorised the purchase of a second Dennis Paxit refuse collecting vehicle and the engagement of three additional employees to man the vehicle. A quotation submitted by Messrs. Dennis Bros. for supplying the new vehicle was accepted and an order placed for delivery in April 1961. It is anticipated, with two 18 cubic yards capacity vehicles engaged fully on refuse collection, to operate a revised schedule whereby collection of refuse will be carried out once a week for 13 of the larger parishes and the remaining outlying parishes receiving a fortnightly collection.

Two hundred and forty-nine notices were served during the year under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, on the owners and occupiers of premises requiring them to provide a satisfactory dustbin. One hundred and three bins were provided by the Council in default and an annual charge of 7s. 6d. made in respect of each dustbin provided.

The schedule of collection which has been in operation since May 1956, is as follows :—

SCHEDULE

Week 1

Tuesday— Padbury, Adstock.
Wednesday—Thornborough, Thornton, Beachampton.
Thursday— Maids Moreton, Foxcote, Leckhampstead.
Friday— Lillingstone Lovell, Lillingstone Dayrell, Addington, Middle Claydon.

Week 2

Tuesday— Steeple Claydon.
Wednesday—Edgcott, Marsh Gibbon.
Thursday— Poundon, Twyford, Charndon.
Friday— Hillesden, Preston Bissett, Chetwode, Barton Hartshorne.

Week 3

Tuesday— Tingewick.
Wednesday—Radclive-cum-Chackmore, Shalstone, Biddlesden, Water Stratford.
Thursday— Turweston, Westbury.
Friday— Akeley, Stowe.

The 18 cubic yards Dennis Paxit vehicle continued to give satisfactory service during the year and there is no doubt that this type of vehicle is invaluable in a scattered rural area. This vehicle, which was purchased in April, 1956, has now covered 37,018 miles and has proved most economical in both running and maintenance costs.

The Karrier Gamecock 10 cubic yards diesel side loader vehicle has given satisfactory service and was used for relief work on refuse collection, tip maintenance and for general sewerage and estate maintenance work.

A disused clay pit at Calvert, owned by the London Brick Company Limited, and rented by the Council, continued to be used for the disposal of all household refuse. Levelling operations were carried out by the use of the Fordson Major Diesel tractor, fitted with bulldozer blade. This machine has given satisfactory service but has proved expensive in operation due to the fact that it is mounted on rubber tyres which resulted in excessive tyre wear and numerous punctures.

During the year the Council's attention was drawn to this matter and authority was given to the purchase of a new Bristol Angledozer, for delivery during the financial year 1961-62. This machine should prove a valuable asset on tip maintenance and control. There is no doubt that a tracked vehicle is much more suit-

able for this type of work. Surplus excavated materials and soil have been imported from time to time for covering the tip surface and every effort is made to keep the tip in a presentable condition.

Regular inspections and treatment for rodents were carried out during the year and the tip face was sprayed with insecticides at frequent intervals to keep the fly nuisance to a minimum.

One person was convicted and fined during the year of an offence under Section 76 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for sorting over and disturbing materials deposited on the refuse tip.

The total income from the sale of waste paper and scrap iron during the year amounted to £48 0s. 10d.

The work of cleansing septic tanks and cesspools continued to be carried out by contract at four-monthly intervals and has been executed in a satisfactory manner.

6. Schools.

Work was completed during the year on the provision of new classroom/dining room, kitchen and sanitary accommodation at Chackmore and Tingewick Schools.

With the conversion of pail closets to w.cs. at Hillesden and Adstock Schools during the year, modern sanitation now exists in 13 of the 16 village schools in the District.

The remaining three schools which are in possession of the old pail closets are situate at Padbury, Marsh Gibbon and Akeley. It is anticipated that conversion work will be carried out at Akeley early in 1961 now that the main sewerage scheme for the village has been completed. New schools have been programmed for both Marsh Gibbon and Padbury and it is hoped that these schemes will not be delayed.

As far as Marsh Gibbon is concerned, the Education Committee agreed to carry out conversion works at the existing school during 1961.

7. Swimming Baths.

There are no public swimming baths in the Rural District but rural residents in the summertime, as well as school children, used the open air one in the Borough of Buckingham.

8. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No infestation was reported during the year.

9. Rodent Control.

Work during the year by the rodent operative has again been carried out satisfactorily.

Work of Inspection and Control.

(*a*) Number of Complaints received	164
(*b*) Number of Properties inspected and visits carried out	1979
(*c*) Number of properties found infested with rats	242
(*d*) Number of Properties found infested with mice	61

All sewers in the District were test baited during the year and only minor infestations were found and cleared.

The revenue derived from treatment of business premises during the year amounted to £76 19s. 0d.

10. General Survey of Work.

Improvement of Existing Council Houses.

Following the Council's approval in principle in 1959 to install hot water systems in 208 Pre-War Council Houses, which have existing bathrooms, standard grant aid was approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and works executed during the year at :—

1-4, The Barracks, Hillesden ;

1-17, South End, Leckhampstead.

Approval was also given during the year to similar installations for 29 houses at Steeple Claydon and by

the end of the year the works had been completed in eighteen of these dwellings. The hot water system installed in each case being by means of an electric 20 gallons U.D.B. Sadia.

Consideration was given by the Council during the year to reports by Sub-Committees to provide bathrooms in those pre-War houses without that facility and it is hoped that a start towards this end will be made during 1961.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Since the inception of this Act in 1959 a total of 26 applications have been received for standard grant aid. The grant is payable in respect of the provision of specified standard amenities and on the actual expenditure incurred for this purpose. By the end of the year works had been completed in respect of 13 dwellings and grants amounting to £1,258 10s. 0d. paid to owners.

Up to the end of 1960 improvement works with the aid of discretionary improvement grants had been completed in respect of 112 dwellings and 6 additional units provided by way of conversion.

Slaughterhouses.

In pursuance of Section 3 of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, the Council carried out a review of the existing and possible future requirements of their District for slaughtering facilities.

Consultations with trade interests, adjoining Local Authorities, local butchers and the National Farmers' Union, took place early in the year and a report was subsequently prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Towards the end of the year the Minister's approval of the report was received and fixed the appointed day as 1st January, 1962. By this date all existing slaughterhouses in the District will have to conform to the construction regulations in order to qualify for a licence.

New regulations came into force on 1st November, 1960, with regard to the staining and sterilization of meat unfit for human consumption. The Regulations require all butchers' meat and imported meat which is unfit for human consumption to be sterilized and all knacker's meat to be stained or sterilized before entering the chain of distribution. There are certain exemptions, namely, zoos, menageries, mink farms, trout farms, and processors may obtain such meat unstained and unsterilized if it is transported in locked containers or vehicles.

Building Byelaws.

The department has again been exceedingly busy on building work inspection. A total of 181 plans were deposited during the year as against 188 deposited during 1959.

During the year, the Council agreed to the revision of the Building Byelaws made under the Public Health Act, 1936. New byelaws were adopted with respect to Thermal Insulation and flue pipes. The Minister of Housing and Local Government's approval to the draft byelaws was received and the operative date fixed at 1st December, 1960.

Maintenance Work.

There is still a high turnover rate with regard to persons engaged in general maintenance on refuse collection, sewage disposal, drainage and ditch cleansing. The nature of the work involved is, no doubt, the chief factor in bringing about these labour difficulties. Even when vacancies are advertised, difficulty is usually experienced in engaging the right type of person.

Consideration was given to this matter by the Council during the year when they agreed to an increase in the hourly rate payable in order to attract applicants.

A brief summary of other inspections and visits made during 1960 is appended below :—

Total number of visits to premises		3175
Complaints received		21
Informal Notices served		58
Statuary Notices served :		
Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936	469	
Section 50, Public Health Act, 1936	1	
Section 259, Public Health Act, 1936	1	
Section 9, Housing Act, 1957 ...	1	

Factories Acts 1937 and 1948.

The table below shews the position during 1960, as far as work places and factories are concerned and the inspections made for purposes as to health and sanitation.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :

Premises (1)	*Number on Register* (2)	*Number of Inspections* (3)	*Written Notices* (4)	*Occupier prosecuted* (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authoritties	4	18	1	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	35	3	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	22	53	4	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found :—

Particulars (1)	*Number of cases in which defects were found*				*Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted* (6)
	Found (2)	*Remedied* (3)	*Referred* *To H.M. Inspector* (4)	*By H.M. Inspector* (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the act (not including offences relating to Outwork.)	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil

Part VIII of The Act—Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)—Nil.

Certification of adequate means of escape in case of fire from Factories under Section 34 of the Factories Act 1937, previously undertaken by the Council, has now been taken over by the County Council acting as Fire Authority.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

This Act came into force on August 29th, 1960, mainly as a result of the weakness and difficulties encountered in enforcing the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

A site licence system for caravan sites is introduced with its own operational procedure and penalties and this is the responsibility of the District Council. The aim of the Act is to secure that all caravan sites, whether residential or holiday sites, are properly equipped and run and all existing sites were brought under review by the requirement that occupiers had to apply for site licences within two months of the coming into force of the Act.

Number of Site Licences issued	3
Number of Inspections	29
Nuisances found to exist	1

Drainage.

Good progress has been made in this field of operations and during the year alterations and the relaying of defective drainage systems were carried out at 91 existing premises.

Thirteen septic tanks, serving twenty-two dwellings, were constructed during the year.

Number of New drains examined	110
Number of visits for that purpose	198
Number of W.C.'s installed	121
Number of new soil and ventilating pipes installed	93

Petroleum (Regulations) Acts 1928 and 1936.

During the licensing year 1959, three underground tanks were subjected to re-test and were found to be unsatisfactory.

Number of Petroleum Licences, December 1960 :—

500 gallons or less	27
Over 500 gallons but not more than 1,000 gallons	8
Over 1,000 gallons	5
Total licences issued	40
Number of inspections or tests carried out ...	58

Three new tanks were installed and tested during the year.

Infectious Diseases.

Enquiries in cases of infectious disease	10
Number of visits re disinfection	Nil

Housing and Building Byelaws.

Number of Plans deposited for new houses ...	27
Number of Plans deposited for other works ...	154
Visits in connection with Building Byelaws ...	619

Other Classified Visits.

Housing visits under the Housing Acts	142
Housing visits under the Public Health Acts ...	18
Visits re water supply	60
Visits re drainage and sewerage	115
Visits re refuse collection	708
Visits re refuse disposal	64
Visits in connection with sewage disposal ...	269
Schools	25
General nuisances	28
Overcrowding	3
Visits to Shops and Licensed Premises	278
Visits to Canteens	5
Unclassified	18
Stables and Piggeries	21
Knackers Yards	5

SECTION D.

Housing

The total number of Council Houses erected Post War is now 419. The rate of progress during the year increased slightly over that of the previous year. The figures for the last three years being 11, 4 and 14 respectively. By the end of the year two bungalows were under construction as compared with six bungalows the previous year.

Erection of Post War Council Houses up to December 1960

Parish	*Houses*	*Bungalows*	*Total Completed*	*UnderConstruction*
Adstock	16	—	16	—
Akeley	16	—	16	—
Beachampton	10	—	10	—
Biddlesden	4	—	4	—
Charndon	6	—	6	—
Chetwode	4	—	4	—
Edgcott	8	—	8	—
Hillesden	10	—	10	—
Lillingstone Lovell ...	4	—	4	—
Maids Moreton	15	—	15	—
Marsh Gibbon	28	2	30	—
Middle Claydon	4	—	4	—
Padbury	30	—	30	—
Poundon	3	—	3	—
Preston Bissett	17	—	17	2
Radclive-cum-Chackmore	4	—	4	—
Steeple Claydon... ...	52	45	97	—
Stowe	2	—	2	—
Thornborough	22	—	22	—
Thornton	4	—	4	—
Tingewick	45	13	58	—
Turweston	6	—	6	—
Twyford	28	—	28	—
Water Stratford ...	—	4	4	—
Westbury	17	—	17	—
Total	355	64	419	2

Total number of houses erected and occupied during the year 1960 11

Total number of houses built and owned by the Authority 718

Pre-War—299. Post-War—419.

Erection of Post War Houses by Private Enterprise up to December 1960

Parish	*Houses*	*Bungalows*	*Total Completed*	*Under Construction*	*By Other Authorities*
Akeley	1	3	4	—	
Adstock	4	1	5	4	
Barton Hartshorne ...	—	1	1	—	
Beachampton	4	—	4	—	
Biddlesden	5	2	7	—	
Charndon	3	10	13	—	
Chetwode	—	1	1	—	
Edgcott	2	—	2	—	
Hillesden	2	1	3	—	
Leckhampstead	1	—	1	—	
Lillingstone Lovell ...	—	1	1	—	
Maids Moreton	5	4	9	1	
Marsh Gibbon	6	6	12	—	
Middle Claydon	1	—	1	1	
Padbury	6	2	8	1	
Preston Bissett	—	—	—	1	
Radclive-cum-Chackmore	3	—	3	3	
Shalstone	—	1	1	1	
Steeple Claydon	4	4	8	2	
Stowe	20	1	21	1	
Thornborough	3	4	7	1	1
Thornton	—	2	2	—	
Tingewick	1	4	5	—	1
Turweston	2	1	3	—	
Twyford	3	2	5	—	
Water Stratford	1	1	2	—	
Westbury	6	4	10	1	
Total	83	56	139	17	2

Total number of houses erected and occupied during the year 1960 10

The Council gave consideration early in the year to the adoption of a 13th Building Programme and agreed to the erection of twenty dwellings as follows :—

Steeple Claydon	10
Tingewick	10

Tenders were subsequently invited for the work and the following tenders were accepted by the Council :—

6 Houses, Tingewick—	
Messrs. F. A. Hedges, Syresham ...	£10,366 19. 0.
4 Bungalows, Tingewick—	
Messrs. Pollard and Son, Buckingham	£6,440 0. 0.
10 Houses, Steeple Claydon—	
Messrs. Gibbard & Ingram, Winslow	£17,729 9. 2.
Construction of road extension, Tingewick—	
Messrs. Bridgwater Bros., Epsom ...	£2,242 2. 5.

Work on these schemes should commence early in the new year.

Temporary Houses—Programme for Disposal.

The Council resolved, on being satisfied that they can do without the twenty Universal bungalows at Tingewick and Steeple Claydon, to request the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to arrange for their removal as soon as possible after the completion of the 20 dwellings to be erected in these parishes under the 13th Building Programme. The Minister agreed to this course of action.

Progress has been maintained regarding inspection of properties listed for action in the Council's Slum Clearance Programme.

A summary of the action taken with regard to Slum Clearance is shewn in the following table :—

SLUM CLEARANCE — Five Year Programme

Summary of Action Taken from October 1955 to 31st December 1960

Parish	Number of Unfit Houses in Slum Clearance Programme	Action Taken										Action to be Taken—Remaining
		Clearance Area Made (Number of Premises)	Demolition Order Made	Closing Order Made	Undertaking not to re-let for human habitation	Undertaking to make fit for human habitation	Demolished	Deleted from Programme	Represented and under consideration	Owned by Local Authority resolution to demolish	Informal Action	
Adstock	8		8				8					Nil
Barton Hartshorne	1		1				1					Nil
Charndon	6											6
Hillesden	4		4				4					Nil
Maids Moreton ...	11		3				3					8
Marsh Gibbon ...	6			1		3†						2*
Padbury	8		6		2		6					Nil
Preston Bissett ...	14			1	6	2	4	1		2	2	Nil
Steeple Claydon ...	1				1							Nil
Thornborough ...	9		3		1		2	3				2
Tingewick ...	8		2	3		1†	2					2
Turweston ...	3						1				1	2
Twyford	12	7	5				12					Nil
Water Stratford ...	5		2			2†	2				1†	Nil
Totals	96	7	34	5	10	8	45	4	Nil	2	4	22

Note.—*Action to be deferred during present tenant's lifetime. †Rendered fit.

Other Dwellings not included in above programme, but dealth with during year.

Tingewick ... ... 1, undertaking to render fit.
Padbury ... ... 1, undertaking not to relet for human habitation.
Maids Moreton ... 1, Ditto.

Houses included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister Pre-War but not yet demolished.

Parish	*No. of Houses*	*No. still occupied*	*No. of persons in occupation*
Akeley ...	6	1	2
Stowe ...	7	7	17

The licences issued under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 to occupy the above premises expired on the 30th August 1957 and the owners and occupiers were subsequently notified to vacate the premises by 31st December 1958.

The Council decided to assist in the re-housing as far as possible.

Inspection and Action During the Year.

Number of Houses found to be in a state unfit for habitation	3
Number of House in respect of which an undertaking was signed to render the premises fit for habitation	1
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed that the premises owned would not be re-let for habitation	2
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Demolition order was made	Nil
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Closing Order was made	Nil
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which action was deferred	5
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Clearance Order was made	Nil

The Council had to demolish three cottages during the year in default by the owner.

Overcrowding.

No cases of overcrowding were investigated during the year.

The House Purchase and Housing Act 1959.

Discretionary Improvement Grants.—Seventeen applications for grants in respect of 21 premises were made,

of which sixteen received approval and the maximum grant of fifty per cent. was recommended in each case. The remaining application is awaiting consideration by the Council.

The total grant aid approved during the year amounted to £6,270 0s. 0d., an average of £298 11s. 5d. per house.

Applications made during 1960

Parish	*No. of Dwellings to be improved*	*Additional Units to be provided by conversion*
Barton Hartshorne ...	2	–
Beachampton	1	–
Edgcott	1	–
Marsh Gibbon	2	–
Middle Claydon	3	–
Padbury	1	–
Preston Bissett	1	–
Steeple Claydon ...	–	1
Thornborough	1	–
Turweston	1	–
Twyford	2	–
Water Stratford ...	1	–
Westbury	1	1
	17	2

Under consideration (2)—Marsh Gibbon.

Up to the 31st December 1960, improvement works have been completed in respect of 112 properties and 6 additional units have been provided by way of conversion.

Number of properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council during 1960 ...	19
Amount of grant aid approved by the Council during 1960	£6,270 0. 0.
Total number of properties in respect of which of which grants were approved by the Council to 31st December 1960	155
Total amount of grant aid approved by the Council to 31st December, 1960	£47,080 18. 3.

Standard Improvement Grants.

Applications approved during 1960

Premises	*No. of Premises involved*	*Standard amenities to be provided*				
		W.C.	*Wash Basin*	*Bath in Bath-room*	*Hot Water supply*	*Food Store*
Akeley	1	1	–	–	–	–
Beachampton ...	1	1	1	1	1	–
Hillesden	1	1	1	1	–	1
Maids Moreton ...	1	–	1	1	1	–
Padbury	1	1	1	1	1	–
Steeple Claydon ...	1	1	–	–	–	–
Thornborough ...	2	1	1	1	1	1
Tingewick	1	1	1	1	1	–
Turweston ...	1	1	1	1	1	1
Twyford	1	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	11	9	8	8	7	4

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk.

It is pleasing to note that no report was received regarding the existence of tuberculosis or brucella abortus in dairy herds.

Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949

Number of Dairies registered	1
Number of Distributors on Register	11
Inspections	4

The following supplementary licences were issued during the year under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949 authorising the use of the Special Designation :—

" Tuberculin Tested "	10
" Pasteurised "	11

New regulations came into force during the year, which replace and consolidate with amendments the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949 to 1954 and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilized) Regulations 1953.

The principle changes, as far as your Council is concerned are that all dealer's licences, other than those issued by the Ministry, will be issued by the County Council, as the Food and Drugs Authority. A dealer's licence will no longer restrict sales to the area of the licensing authority and supplementary licences are therefore discontinued.

Ice Cream.

Total number of retailers on register	44
New applications received and Premises registered	4
Inspections	17

Samples of ice cream have been taken from premises serving ice cream to the public. These samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, for

bacteriological examination by the methylene blue reduction test and were graded as follows :—

Provisional Grade	I	...	...	...	...	6
Do.	II	...	...	...	...	Nil
Do.	III	...	...	...	...	Nil
Do.	IV	...	...	...	...	Nil

This test affords a simple means for the grading of the bacteriological cleanliness of ice cream.

Meat and Slaughterhouses

During the year, a total of 1,361 animals was slaughtered for meat in the three licensed private slaughterhouses in the district and I am pleased to state that once again 100% inspection of the meat after slaughter was carried out. The percentage decrease of animals killed over the year 1959 was 14.94. This was mainly due to the decrease in the number of sheep and lambs slaughtered, there being an increase of 7% over the figures of 1959 in the number of adult cattle slaughtered.

It is with every satisfaction that I have to report for the second year in succession that no cases of tuberculosis were found in adult cattle slaughtered during the year. The eredication of bovine tuberculosis by the attested herd scheme and latterly by attested areas will benefit both public health and also farming economy.

As in 1959 three cases of localized cysticercosis were found in cattle.

Out of the total of 246 pigs slaughtered, 9 were found to be affected with localized tuberculosis on post portem examination ; an increase of 1.76 over the figure for 1959.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or part :

	Cattle excluding Cows	*Cows*	*Calves*	*Sheep and Lambs*	*Pigs*	*Horses*
Number killed ...	123	5	5	982	246	—
Number inspected	123	5	5	982	246	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	2	5	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	49	4	—	37	30	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	39.84	80.00	40.00	4.28	12.20	—
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	9	—
Percentage of the inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	3.66	—
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Parts or Organs condemned are classified as follows :

	Veal	*Beef*	*Pork*	*Mutton*	*Total*
Whole Carcase ...	2	—	—	5	7
Plucks	—	—	1	—	1
Livers	—	50	7	30	87
Heads and Tongues	—	3	7	—	10
Hearts	—	4	4	4	12
Lungs	—	7	14	6	27
Part carcase ...	—	1	4	—	5
Miscellaneous ...	—	9	7	—	16

Approximate total weight 10 cwts. 3 qrs. 1¼ lb.

Number of licensed slaughterhouses	3
Visits to slaughterhouses	200
Visits to Butchers' shops	205
Number of licensed slaughtermen	13

Food Premises.

The premises coming within the purview of the Regulations are summarised as follows :—

School Canteens	16
Private School Kitchens	5
Factory Canteens	3
Hospital Kitchens	3
Licensed Clubs	4
Licensed Public Houses	38
Mobile Fish and Chip Vans	2
Shops—General Stores	40
Butchers	7
Bakers	1
Total	119

Food Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act 1955 are classfied as follows :—

Ice Cream (registered for the storage and sale) ...	44
Mobile Vans (for frying of fish and chips) ...	2
Manufacture of Sausages	7

Knackers Yards

The licensed knackers yard in the district was used spasmodically during the early part of the year and regular inspections of the premises were undertaken. The licence expired on 31st August, 1960 and by the end of the year no application for renewal had been received.

Other Foods

Other foods condemned during the year include :—

Corned Beef	6 lb.

which was found to be unfit for human consumption by reason of decomposition.

Disposal of Condemned Food.

All butcher's meat condemned as unfit is disposed of in accordance with the new regulations which came into force in November concerning the staining and sterilization of meat unfit for human consumption.

Tinned food is disposed of by burial.

Food Poisoning.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Bakehouses.

Number on register	1
Number of visits	2
Contravention of Regulations	2

John C. Sharpe.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control Over, Infectious and Other Diseases

GENERAL.

We were comparatively free from infectious diseases during the year. There was a total of only 18 cases notified as against 132 in 1959.

NOTIFICATIONS.

Disease	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*
Measles	11	2	13
Scarlet Fever ...	1	2	3
Pneumonia ...	2	0	2
Total ...	14	4	18

CANCER.

There were 16 deaths from this disease during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Two primary cases were notified during the year. There were no deaths.

DANIEL H. WALDRON,
Medical Officer of Health.